Linn-Benton Community College Quaranzine

LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE QUARANZINE

A Compilation of Community Projects and Reflections, 2020-2021

LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS

Linn-Benton Community College Albany, Oregon



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How and why this project came to be

This project came about from Linn-Benton Community College's Textbook Affordability Steering Committee brainstorming how to celebrate Open Education Week 2021 (March 1-5). The goal of the Committee was to lower course materials costs for students, and we had a lot to celebrate:

- Cumulative savings (based on new textbook price) from faculty adoptions of OER, library e-resources, and other freely available materials totalled an estimated \$6,546,801 between 2015 and 2020.
- In spring 2021, 56% of LBCC courses had materials

- under \$40 (the student-set affordable course material threshold), and 46% had free course materials.
- Savings from library e-textbooks increased 72%
 compared to spring 2019. Between March 1 and May 31,
 2020, LBCC students and employees read 16,631
 ebooks and watched 4,093 streaming videos through the
 library.

At the same time, we realized many members of our community were exhausted. A year ago, students, faculty, and staff had to transition rapidly to remote work and learning as a novel coronavirus swept the globe. While the pandemic was raging, we'd also collectively experienced shortages of basic sanitary goods, protests, changing government guidelines, devastating and unprecedented wildfires, and a tense election.

Many members of our community lost their homes, jobs, or lives. By Open Ed Week 2021, over half a million people in the United States had died of COVID-19, and 2.5 million people had died globally. While vaccines were rolling out, many people were still dealing with severe crises.

We weren't sure yet another Zoom meeting or email blast would be welcomed, but Forrest Johnson, PT Librarian and English Faculty, brought an idea to the table inspired by a

Johns Hopkins University. (2021, June 9). COVID-19 Dashboard. https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html

project of the Corvallis Benton County Public Library: a zine, or digital time capsule, allowing everyone at LBCC to share original contributions reflecting on how they've been impacted and changed by the pandemic. The LBCC Quaranzine was born!

The goals were simply to give Roadrunners space to share reflections and artifacts from the past year and familiarize the community a little bit with open licensing and OER.

Is this an OER?

Initially, we planned for the entire Quaranzine to be open under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 (CC BY) 4.0, but then realized that would exclude some key content that creators wanted to keep as "All Rights Reserved." It's important to us to understand and clearly communicate the wishes of creators. Luckily, Pressbooks, the platform the Quaranzine is built on, allows different copyright information to be added to different pages of the book. So, this introduction, and any other content that doesn't have other licensing or copyright information, is available under CC BY 4.0. Other contributions have different licensing, which you can find at the bottom of the page.

Open Educational Resources, or OER, are "any type of educational materials that are in the public domain or

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introduced with an open license."² Most of this book has an open license. This reflects the reality of textbook affordability efforts at LBCC: OER are often used along with free library e-textbooks, free online resources, or low-cost homework platforms and texts. One goal of this project was educating our community about open licensing. So, is this book an OER? Sort of!

Invitation to contribute

Feel like you missed an opportunity to participate? One of the beauties of OER and online resources is that they can be updated! Email campd@linnbenton.edu or johnsof@linnbenton.edu to add your submission.

Notes on submissions

Did not censor

It is important to us that this project reflects the experiences of our contributors. Their views are their own and do not

2. UNESCO. (2019). Open Educational Resources (OER). https://en.unesco.org/themes/building-knowledge-societies/oer

necessarily reflect the views of the editors, the Textbook Affordability Steering Committee, Linn-Benton or Community College.

Student contributions and order

Contributions are generally organized alphabetically, by contributor's last name, within categories. Since we only received two student contributions, we placed those first within their category to highlight their experiences.

We were deeply moved by the breadth of ways our community responded to the pandemic, and we hope you are, too.

Dionna Camp, Forrest Johnson, and Michaela Willi Hooper

Quaranzine editors

CREATIVE PROJECTS AND RESPONSES

A SILENT REMINDER - SI MATTA

LBCC Student Si Matta shares a post first published April 14, 2020 at *Gathering the Stories of Place*.

A Silent Reminder

Beneath the securities of good nights and safe houses, lived fear. Fear dressed in Existential fangs always sat at the outside waiting to get in. The sweet smell of apple pie and coffee seemed a good enough shield to the elephant that sat in at the edge of the room, flicker of flame and wax. Shadows have always lurked beneath the savory light of 'everything's fine if you send hopes and prayers.' Then one day, everything changed. Not the flash of atomic light we dreamt of in cold war

beds, terrified with nightmare, and the comfort of mothers floor. No, it changed the way you would expect a tad pole to become a frog, unseen but heard for miles across platforms of social distancing. The veil became thin, and the emperor ran across abandoned golf courses, naked and scared.

This had always been the dream, the liminal birthing canals connected to the ethernets of the universe, tearing illusion from its perch.. the Eagle remembered it was an Eagle and tore apart his jingoist ways, for a chance to taste the flesh of Salmon once again. The metaphors painted slow motion chrysalises, sparked from the time outside of time, where dream and awake fancy dance on early morning vistas.. or perhaps, it is the prayers of Ghost Dancers awaking the Ancestors for aid. The realist thing about this, is that it is not real. It is not matter. It can not cast shadow, or shine light, yet sits on the edge of hills, threading and weaving, a silent killer. A silent reminder....

Pay attention to what the frogs have to say, they may have all the answers we need.

Be safe. Be kind. Be gentle.



A YouTube element has been excluded from this version of the text. You can view it online here: https://openoregon.pressbooks.pub/ quaranzine/?p=93

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JOURNAL ENTRY -ALISON R.

Alison R. says, "Below is a journal entry from March 20, 2020, when the Coronavirus really started spreading. This was a time of fear, paranoia, and confusion. I mention paranoia, because I start questioning what is happening. I think a lot of us did, and no one really knew what it was at the time. Joe is mentioned in the entry; he is my significant other and the only person I live with. I feel like this journal entry was me trying to get facts down that we knew at the time, but also trying to process what was happening."

3/20/2020

Today is Joe's 33rd Birthday. We couldn't do much because there is a virus going around called the Coronavirus, or COVID-19. Things have gotten

pretty crazy in a short amount of time. A few weeks ago, people started getting informed that there was a virus that started in China. This virus is killing people who are elderly, people who have a weak immune system, and people with health conditions. They started quarantining people and people stopped going to work. Well, that virus has spread all over the world. It is being called a Pandemic. The news keeps creating fear among people. Italy is on lockdown and now has more deaths than China. People are being ordered to social distance themselves and stay indoors. When cases started appearing in Washington State, about a week or so ago, people started panicking. There are travel bands to other countries, and the other way around. Cruise ships are stuck at sea with yellow flags indicating quarantine. People are not flying or using public transportation. Literally a week ago, I knew this was going to be bad. Joe and I went to the local Walmart, and I'm glad we did when we did. Everyone was scared, I could see it in their faces. Rice, pasta, toilet paper, Lysol, and hand sanitizer were almost all gone. The shelves were looking very bare. We stocked up on some canned food

and cat food. Figured I should buy some toilet paper too, while there was some left. People are panic buying all over the U.S.: hoarding toilet paper, hand sanitizer, and cleaning products. Hospitals are short on masks and PPE. There is limited testing for the virus. I was asked to leave work because I had a runny nose and cough. We live in a valley full of allergies, but my boss said we don't know what is causing my symptoms. A week with no pay. Now, California has a shelterin-place law (and other states), but hasn't been made official in Oregon, yet. They closed schools, movie theatres, bars, and restaurants. Food is only available for delivery and take-out. Grocery stores are still open and essential businesses like hospitals, the bank, the post-office, and animal hospitals (where I work). What scares me is how fast this is all happening. I believe this was planned. Not sure how bad it's going to get, but so far not looking good. People are buying more guns than usual. Could this be the beginning of Martial Law? I don't even feel comfortable at work. I bought some survival gear and need to prepare in case shit goes south way fast. Our

economy is crashing. I just hope I get to see my friends and family again.



this picture summed up the Coronavirus.

Joe. I felt like Sign to social Sign on Bare shelves distance in bookstore in at Walmart. Rite Aide. Lebanon.

Many LBCC employees shared the projects they'd been working on from home at the Virtual Spring In-Service 2021. Below, Kimberly Kopplien, Information Support Specialist, shares some of her quarantine accomplishments:



The swimming pool we were This was a long project as we setting up permanently. learned how not to do it.



The mural is on the wall of a business in Albany.



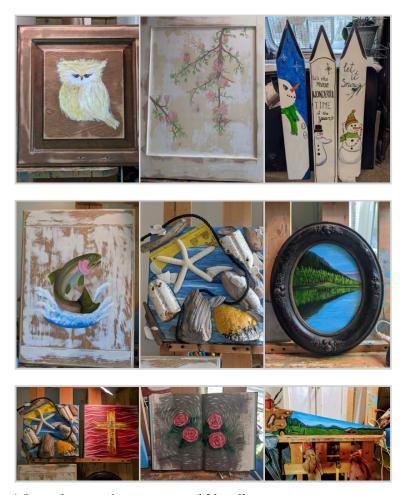


I replaced all hanging light fixtures.









These along with my art are sold locally.



Afghan I crocheted for a friend – bee keeper.

ACRYLIC PAINTING -VIKKI MAURER

Vikki Maurer, Math Faculty at LBCC, also shared her newlydiscovered talents at Spring In-Service 2021:

During the pandemic, I have been learning how to paint using acrylics. It is a challenge for sure! I enjoy realism and am drawn to landscapes and still life. To date, I have completed 40 paintings. Most recently, I was commissioned to paint a cabin scene for someone whose beloved family cabin was consumed by the summer 2020 Oregon fires. The warm glow from the inside, the tall trees, and the brush just outside the door, were special elements that meant something to the family. After so many losses during the pandemic, it was my pleasure to paint something with such special meaning.

Vikki



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QUILTING - PAM MCLAGAN

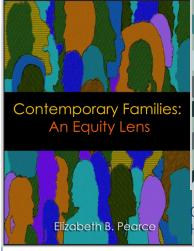
Pam McLagan, English Department, says, "The photo represents the first four quilts completed during Covid (mid-March to 25 April). So far, I have completed 34 baby/child/'throw' size quilts. Most were donated: Some to an orphanage in Haiti; some to Evergreen Hospice House; one to a dying friend (not Covid); some still in a holding pattern. Creating something in crazy times keeps me from going totally crazy!"



NEW HUMAN SERVICES OPEN TEXTBOOKS -ELIZABETH B. PEARCE AND STUDENTS

When the pandemic struck, Elizabeth (Liz) B. Pearce and her students were in the midst of an ambitious project to create an open textbook for HDFS 201: Contemporary Families in the United States. They finished the book, *Contemporary Families: An Equity Lens*, in summer 2020, and didn't stop there! Liz began writing another book for HDFS 262, *Introduction to Human Services*. Liz won the LBCC's Pastega Faculty Award for her innovative teaching career, the original student contributors of *Contemporary Families* won LBCC's Unity Award, and students continued to write new chapters for *Contemporary Families*.

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Cover of Contemporary Families: An Equity Lens Cover image of Introduction to Human Services

As our world came screeching to a halt in March 2020, I went into

survival mode with my students, family, and colleagues. Shifting classes, projects, and family celebrations to the online environment collided with the media's focus on the killing of George Floyd and elevation of the Black Lives Matter movement.

I needed to survive and support my students and children, also students, in their work to survive, succeed, and perhaps thrive.

I needed to thrive. I needed a mission that took me outside of my own concerns and to work for something greater than my own world. I had been co-creating *Contemporary Families:* An Equity Lens with 13 students in an open pedagogy project for six months. The project was in rough draft form. I decided to volunteer my summer months to completing the text and getting it into publishable form. Liz Baker, Michaela Willi Hooper, and Lauren Antrosiglio all volunteered their pandemic time with me. For 3 hours every day I worked on writing, editing, and moving the text into Pressbook form which we accomplished just in time for 100 students to read it in the Fall of 2021.



Student-created image from Contemporary Families, illustrating that many essential workers like nurses lacked personal protective equipment (PPE) during the pandemic.

Knowing that I was working for students past and present gave my life meaning during the pandemic.

Then the fires hit and my first backpacking trip for which I had planned all summer was canceled. A loss on top of a loss. I have to admit I did not dig into this second project as graciously, but I used the time to pull together chapters from multiple openly licensed texts and to write a few original chapters for this (still unfinished) textbook for human services majors. The section on Social Justice in this chapter speaks to me and to the work that all of us are doing to integrate the loss of life experienced by our communities of color and other marginalized groups.

As we move into the next chapter of the pandemic, I want to hold onto the strength and purpose that fueled me to create texts that make education more equitable. That equity comes not just through cost, but also through co-creation and content that attempts to progress movements such as Black Lives Matter forward.

Liz Pearce

June 2021

Attribution: Image by Katie Niemeyer in *Contemporary Families: An Equity Lens*. License: CC BY 4.0.

FAMILY PROJECTS - NICOLE SCHUKOW

Nicole Schukow in Extended Learning says, "Our family had been so busy with projects! We build a new deck and outdoor kitchen (all 4 kids helped, load wood, screw in boards, and learned to use a nail gun) in March/April, then built one for a friend. Rearranged all the bedrooms in the house complete with new paint/decorations, and converted the attic into a 'log cabin' bedroom for our 12 year old! It just needs carpet and it's done. We also fostered 16 kittens for SafeHaven and a pig. The black light stairs we built to go up to the attic! We have been busy!"















LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

ROADRUNNER REPORT - LISA AVERY

Not all the changes at LBCC were pandemic-related. LBCC also got a new president in March 2020, Dr. Lisa Avery. Dr. Avery and other new employees had to build connections with the community through technologies like Zoom and email. Below is one of a series of Roadrunner Reports that Dr. Avery used to reach out to the college community.



LB

July 23, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

I hope your summer is going well. As I write this letter, I'm inspired by the thought that many of our students have chosen to spend their summers with LBCC, getting ready for the term's

start next week, and continuing their educational path despite these uncertain times. And I'm inspired by the thought that our staff and faculty have worked hard to be ready to help them along the way...thank you!

It's been three weeks since I began my role as your new president. I wanted to reach out and let you all know that I'm getting settled into the office, very excited to be here, and looking forward to connecting with all facets of our learning and working community. I'll begin by writing to you regularly with updates...here are a few recent happenings to share:

Around the College

Our ongoing COVID situation makes it a very interesting time to transition positions. Though I wish I could meet you all in person, I am instead scheduling a number of Zoom meetings to get to know the college and the community. During my first month, I will be meeting with more than 30 LBCC employees and students, and another 15 community leaders and elected officials. It is

important for me to hear what is on your mind and how you are coping with COVID. We are also arranging some face-to-face (with meetings, and a few walking meetings for those who are willing and able. If you would like to get together this summer, please let Amanda Kliever know, and she will try to find time for us to walk, meet or Zoom together.

As you might guess, even before I began my position officially at LB, much of my time has been focused on preparing to guide the college gradually into in-person work after the sudden spring shift to remote/online education. I have directed my leadership team to shift our dialogue toward the term "Rebounding" instead of "Reopening" — since in fact we never closed. Currently the team is putting the finishing touches on our Rebounding Plan, and we hope to distribute it widely next month. Physical health and safety of students and employees is central to the plan. One particular item on my mind is how to take care of our employees during this time when the pandemic continues to drag on, and in many areas, worsen. I'm wondering how the leadership team can support you and your work, so please let me know if you have ideas. Also, I know many of our employees, myself included, are K-12 parents, and consequently are concerned about how the area school districts' reopening plans might influence your work life. As the parent of an incoming sixth-grader and a rising senior, I wish I had an answer; please stay tuned as we await further news from local districts. They too are trying to balance health, safety and the educational needs of our community.

Next, I have a request: please help me create a college culture of wearing masks or other face coverings. As you know, when on campus, face coverings are required in order to help keep ourselves and each other safe (except in private offices). Like many of you, I have immunocompromised people in my family, and I am trying to protect them as well. If you see on my masked-up walks around campus, please stop me to say hello and introduce yourself. It may be hard to see, but I'm probably smiling!

Around the State

I've been staying in close touch with my fellow Oregon presidents this summer as we work with Higher Education Coordinating the state's Commission (HECC) and the Community College and Workforce Development Office (CCWD) on COVID guidance and the fiscal impact of the pandemic. I feel very fortunate to have strong collegial relationships with that group, and to benefit from the steady leadership of Dr. Cam Preus from the Oregon Community College Association (OCCA), who helps guide the colleges to speak from one voice on behalf of the 260,000+ Oregonians we serve annually. As a group, we continue to advocate for additional resources for students and institutions who have been impacted by COVID. I have met with five members of LBCC's legislative delegation already, and my message is clear:

 Now more than ever, community colleges essential to Oregon's are educational, economic, and social wellbeing. **Now more than ever,** we need to bring resources to communities who have been devastated by the economic crisis, and community colleges are uniquely positioned to do so.

You will hear more from me on our state budget as we move forward into the legislature's special session (happening sometime soon) and into next year's long session.

Around the U.S.

At the same time as COVID rages, so does social unrest. Like many of you, I have been watching the ongoing protests in Portland and other parts of the country. My hopes for our country involve reconciliation, dialogue across difference, and lasting social change. LB's new equity statement is available here, and elaborates on these critical issues from the lens of our college's inclusive mission. In the meantime, I will keep advocating for equity in our services and outcomes, especially with regard to racial equity in college

access and completion. Please join me in that effort... it will take all of us working together.

With Dr. Preus and three other presidents as well as staff from the Governor's office. I will represent Oregon on the new Reskilling and **Recovery Network**, launched by the American Association of Community Colleges and the National Governors Association. Supported by the Lumina Foundation and the Siemens Foundation, this project will provide technical support to 20 states who are trying to build a post-COVID economy. I am hopeful this network will help us emerge stronger and get our communities back on their feet

Around the House

Now for some news a bit closer to home: my family and I are settling in nicely to our new house in Millersburg (though not fully unpacked!). Along with my wife and daughters, I have been enjoying the beautiful sunsets every evening. We are maintaining social distancing while still exploring the area, and have already done a lot of cycling, hiking and kayaking. Foster Lake made for a beautiful (but breezy) paddle, and my favorite cycling so far is on Santiam Bluffs Road, which provides both a steep climb and an amazing view. In normal times, I might ask for your favorite local restaurant recommendations, but instead, I'd appreciate suggestions for gentle kayaking, road cycling and family-friendly hiking trails. If the sunny weather holds, my family would love to spend our weekends exploring more of the area's best outdoor offerings. The Mid-Willamette Valley is so beautiful — we love it here and feel privileged to join the community.

Finally, thank you for all you do to support our students and our communities. I am proud to be here as your new President, and I look forward to seeing you — one way or another — sometime soon. Best wishes for a great Summer Term.

Thanks,

Lisa

Attribution: Please note that the linked Statement in Solidarity with Black, Indigenous, and People of Color

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A CONTEMPLATIVE MOMENT - JAVIER CERVANTES

Throughout the pandemic, Javier Cervantes, Director of the Department of Institutional Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, shared daily inspirational messages with the LBCC community. Here is an example, sent on November 19, 2020:

Two days ago I wrote about unpredictability; seeing the beauty in the "cold, wet, windy, just plain gray and nasty," day. Not even two hours after I wrote those words this happened:



My wife and partner called me into the kitchen and told me to look out the window. I am fortunate to have had my cell phone on me to snap this quick image. It completely validated my point of, "today [representing] the beauty and the unpredictability of life. We don't really know what is coming next."

So I leave you with this quote to close the loop on my thought from Tuesday. So find your strength y'all and try to maintain hope.



Her strength comes from being tested by life's unpredictability

Our MindfulLife.com

Enjoy the day, let it be an empowered one. Saludos, Javier (157)

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OUR PANDEMIC RESPONSE - JEFF DAVIS

Jeff Davis, Regional Director Benton County, shared his family's approach to the pandemic:

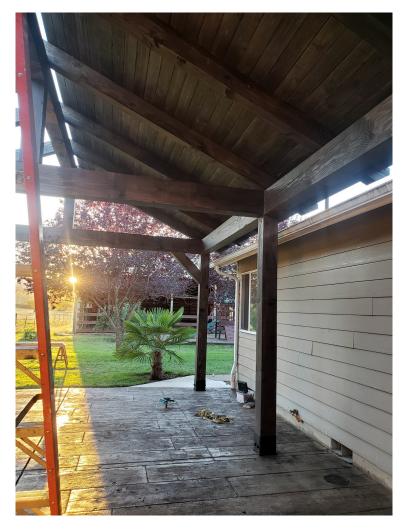
Diane and I grew up with traditions of community service and this past year, the gene really kicked in. We re-engaged with community-based organizations we've been a part of over the years (CARDV, NAACP, Corvallis Environmental Center, PFLAG, others) and sought out ways to lend a hand to others in need. We cultivated a COVID garden at the Starker Arts Garden for Education, growing produce for family and friends who weren't comfortable moving safely through public spaces. We wrote grants for wildfire relief (all of them funded) and volunteered at the Linn and Benton County shelters. When possible to do

so safely, we marched for a series of social justice issues including Black Lives Matter, against hate crimes, and the USPS for fair elections. When it came time for the vaccine roll-out, we took leave time from work to help at the distribution site at Reser Stadium. Throughout it all, this was our pandemic mantra: the best remedy for despair is action.



ENGAGING YOUTH

A youth employer at LBCC shares, "During this unusual time, one finds ways to keep youth engaged in physical activities, requiring strategic thought processes that put their "education" to the test. These thought processes involve time, money, efficiency, purpose, and reward. Engaging all of these attributes into a project that not only serves individual needs, but can also bless others is a success!"



PART III FUN AND GAMES

CTE SAFETY LABS DANCE - BRENDA AUTRY, ET AL.

Throughout the pandemic, faculty discovered innovative ways to work in small-groups with students doing hands-on projects and labs. The video below gave Roadrunners a good laugh during Spring 2021 In-service. Brenda Autry, the creator, says:

"Shout out to the faculty and staff of AMTT who not only danced their hearts out to make this video awesome, but who have also spent the last year making sure students can continue their hands-on CTE education and lab safely! You guys all rock!!!"



A YouTube element has been excluded from this version of the text. You can view it online here: https://openoregon.pressbooks.pub/quaranzine/?p=23

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ZOOM RHAPSODY -SHELDON FLOM, RAYMUND OCAMPO, MICHAEL WINDER, ET AL.

At LBCC, challenges are made throughout Give Day to encourage donations. Following LBCC Give Day 2021, Jennifer Boehmer, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement & the LBCC Foundation, sent out the following college-wide email:

May 28, 2021

Hi Everyone,

Before you depart for the weekend today, I want to make good a promise we made to you if the LBCC Foundation reached its fundraising goal on Give Day. Well, thanks to you, we blew past our \$25,000 and together raised \$43,208 thanks to more than 250 donors who participated!!! Thank you so much!

And now... that means we have to deliver what we promised. On Give Day, VP Sheldon Flom promised you a music video if you responded to his Ultimate Challenge...

May I present, Zoom Rhapsody.

(There comes a time in every Public Information Officer's life when she is at a loss for words for once. Friends, this is that moment....)

Enjoy everyone. A TREMENDOUS thanks to Sheldon (aka LBCC's Freddy Mercury) for writing this and offering to perform in order to spur us on. Also special thanks to Michael Winder for filming (all filmed following Covid safety guidelines) and President Lisa Avery for participating...and thank **you all** again for being dedicated champions for our students.

Best wishes for the weekend ahead, Jennifer



A YouTube element has been excluded from this version of the text. You can view it online here: https://openoregon.pressbooks.pub/quaranzine/?p=25

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CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE: LBCC EDITION - CHRIS AND BETH LYONS

Beth Lyons, Academic Progression Administrative Assistant, says, "This Choose Your Own Adventure story was inspired by working on a Laserfiche Process, as forms go in many different directions. This is a beautiful example of where art and technology meet. One author is an LBCC graduate in Network and Systems Administration, and the other author currently works at LBCC."

Let's start your adventure!